SPORT ECHOES

By Norman Macdonald
Summerside Bureau of The Guardian

Meeting Held By Combines

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We seem to be writing these "Echoes" very often on the eve of a important sports event. The Prince County Combines are holding a meeting tonight, (as we write), chaired by Harold Rodd, and anything we say about it now will be purely presumption. We will presume, however, that the Combines will enter the ISHL. If this league is still in existence, and if the ISHL dies for lack of entries, we presume further that the Combines will do something about organizing a Prince County League, "House" or otherwise, so as to insure that there will be something other than exhibition hockey in Prince County.

Now that definite word has come from the RCAF Station at Summerside that the Eagles will not enter the ISHL this season. It looks as if the league not only has two strikes on it, but the ball now coming to the plate is a spitter and will be very hard to hit. If, as has been suggested, both Charlottetown and Summerside form "House leagues, and pick All-Star teams from them, wouldn't it make the leagues more interesting if they played a few interlocking games as they do in Canadian football? The schedule could be arranged so that a team would have to travel from Charlottetown to Summerside (and the reverse) only once every two weeks. This would not be much of a hardship and might add a new flip of interest to the leagues.

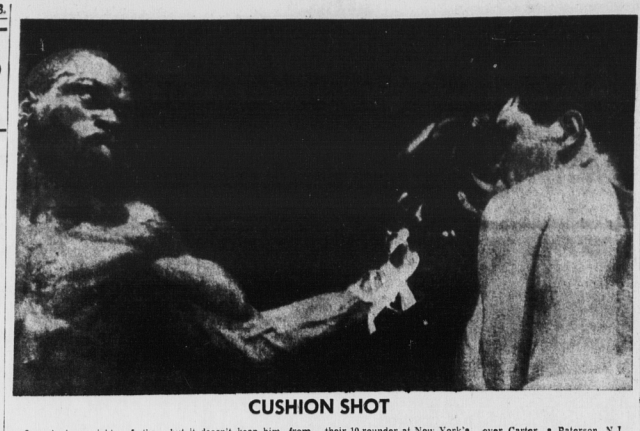
Will Protest Be Called?

After reading all the reports of the football game between P.W.C. and S.H.S. We begin to wonder if there was any official protest made by the Summerside management of the "sleeper" play executed by the Welshmen. We read three columns and two stories of the game, and only once was this protest mentioned. Now "protest" is not a dirty word, and there is no reason for omitting it from game stories if the protest was actually entered. The way we read it the protest will be automatically cancelled if P.W.C. do not get 15 points in their games with S.D. High School. For the Sum-H boys will have gained the finals in any case.

Mrs. Gordie Howe seems to be a better prophet than her husband, Mrs. Howe said that Gordie would break "Rocket" Richard's total goal record the first of November; Gordie thought the last of November would be a better estimate, and a sports columnist--was it Milt Dunnell?--split the difference and called it for the middle of November. Looks now as if it will be very close to the first of November unless Gordie goes into a bad slump. This, of course, is entirely possible, especially when the player is on the brink of breaking a record.

Fringe Sports In News

Well, in the dull season sports writers sometimes resort to writing about those "Fringe" sports. For example, "The Realm" well disclose which fisherman claimed he caught the biggest fish on opening day, (the guy with the widest arm-spread and the most honest looking face generally wins), or who is the new cribbage king. One of the "Fringe" sports today where is growing in favor is the composing of "Tom Swifties". One of the best we've seen appeared in this paper a week or so ago. "Let the prisoner come down the stairs," the warden said condescendingly. Here are three we cooked up while watching a soccer game recently. (1) "I can't eat another bite," her husband said manfully. (2) "Remember the half-ton vehicle I borrowed from you?" he said truculently. (3) "My name is Edward, and I weigh only 90 pounds," the man said delightedly.



CUSHION SHOT

Joey Archer, right, of the Bronx, takes one of Hurricane Carter's left jabs on his glove but it doesn't keep him from getting his nose flattened. Action was in the third round of their 10-rounder at New York's Madison Square Garden, with Archer taking a split decision over Carter, a Paterson, N.J. middleweight contender. (AP Wirephoto)

Hebenton Nearing Record Of Consecutive Contests

By BEN OLAN

NEW YORK (AP) — Andy Hebenton, the National Hockey League's iron-man-to-be, is in excellent shape to continue his assault on the league's consecutive-games-played record. He needs only to appear in Boston Bruins' next 13 games to break it.

The veteran right winger has had his share of bumps and bruises during his eight years in the big league. Yet he's played in 568 straight games. The record is 580 held by Johnny Wilson, former Detroit, Toronto and New York left winger.

His 560th game will be Sunday night, when the Bruins are at home to the Red Wings.

"I really have been lucky," Hebenton said Wednesday. "The toughest time I've had was about three years ago when I lost seven teeth in the same week while playing for New York Rangers. I lost four upper teeth when I was hit in the mouth by a stick in Montreal. A few days later in New York I got three of my lower teeth knocked out when the same thing happened."

The Bruins acquired the 34-year-old Winnipeg native from the Rangers in the NHL draft last June. He appeared in every game during his eight-year stay with New York.

ANDY HEBENTON

HAD EYE INJURY

"My streak came pretty close to ending about three years ago when I was hit in the eye with a stick," Hebenton said. "Things looked bad because the eye almost closed tight and we had a game scheduled for the following night. But they put drops in the eye and I was able to take my full turn."

Hebenton turned pro with Montreal Canadiens 13 years ago although he never got into a game with them.

"I tore some ligaments in my right knee that first year and I guess the Canadiens felt that I would have chronic knee trouble," said Hebenton. "They sent me down to the minors and I missed 30 games. The knee gave me a lot of trouble then but it hasn't bothered me since.

"The second year, with Victoria in the Western League, I had my appendix taken out, so I don't have to worry about that anymore, either."

Sandy Koufax Is League MVP

BOSTON (AP)—Los Angeles left-hander Sandy Koufax—the comeback Dodger who made the difference—was named the National League's most Valuable Player for 1963 Wednesday.

The 27-year-old strikeout king decisively beat Dick Groat, the St. Louis Cardinals' sparkplug 237 points to 190. Results of the annual poll of a 20-man committee of the Baseball Writers Association of America showed Koufax was named on all but one ballot.

Koufax, recovered from a serious circulatory ailment in a finger on his left hand which sidelined him in July 1962, pitched the Dodgers to the pennant they couldn't quite pull off without him the latter half of 1962.

SETS RECORD

The Brooklyn-born bachelor registered a National League record 306 strikeouts en route to a 25-5 mark and a brilliant 1.88 earned run average. He pitched his second major league no-hitter early in the season against San Francisco and personally accounted for two victories in the four-game World Series sweep of New York Yankees.

The American League MVP will be announced Thursday, Nov. 7.

Previously chosen the Cy Young Award winner as the year's finest pitcher, Koufax completed his double by capturing 14 first place votes. Shortstop Groat was named first by four voters while Milwaukee outfielder Hank Aaron and Los Angeles infielder Jim Gilliam split the other two.

Groat was 1960 MVP for the world champion Pittsburgh Pirates and Aaron, third with 133 points to 130 for Dodger relief ace Ron Perranoski, was honored in 1957. Groat and Aaron were the only players listed on all 20 ballots. Willie Mays of San Francisco was fifth.

Los Angeles placed four men in the first eight with batting champion Tommy Davis eighth with 41 points.

WILLS 17TH

Injury-slowed Maury Wills of the Dodgers who was MVP last year, finished in a 17th place tie with Willie McCovey of San Francisco.

Koufax is the first pitcher to be voted the National League's top prize since Brooklyn Dodger Don Newcombe in 1956 and only the seventh in 33 years.

"Oh, thank you," Koufax said when informed of his selection by phone. "I didn't think I was going to win it because I didn't think a pitcher would win. I am especially proud because I believe this is the most important award in baseball."

Koufax was surprised Groat didn't get more voting points.

Groat finished in a third-place tie in the batting race with Aaron at .319. He was the driving force behind a St. Louis pennant bid.

Fields, 25, a member of the American Football League New York Jets, and Howard Vondersea, who played this season with Portland Sea Hawks of the Atlantic Football League.

The Alouettes also announced Wednesday that defensive halfback Barrie Hansen will miss Sunday's game here against Hamilton Tiger-Cats because of a bruised knee.

Coach Jim Trimble doesn't want to risk the chance of Hansen aggravating the injury before the team's Eastern Conference semi-final playoff Nov. 9 against Rough Riders at Ottawa.

Fields, a 227-pounder, was a teammate of Alouette halfback Don Clark at Ohio State, and played with the Jets in 1962. He signed a contract Sunday and will probably lineup with the Als in the Hamilton game.

Vondersea, six feet, four inches, 230 pounds, will be given a five-day tryout.

The Alouettes have been hard hit by injuries to key players, including halfback Clark who is expected to rejoin the club for the playoffs.

Centre Joe Stracina, released and then re-hired as scout, is working out with the team again, and may become a last-minute replacement.

Alouettes Sign Two New Players

MONTREAL (CP)—Two new imports, both linebackers, have joined the Montreal Alouettes of the Eastern Football Conference.

The newcomers are Jerry Fields, 25, a member of the American Football League New York Jets, and Howard Vondersea, who played this season with Portland Sea Hawks of the Atlantic Football League.

The Alouettes also announced Wednesday that defensive halfback Barrie Hansen will miss

Brown, Tittle Still Leading

NEW YORK (AP)—Jimmy Brown, Y. A. Tittle and Bobby Joe Conrad continue to dominate the most important individual statistics at the halfway point of the National Football League season.

Brown didn't add much to his rushing total Sunday, gaining only 40 yards against New York Giants when Cleveland Browns suffered their first defeat, 33-60. However, he still is "way out front with 971 yards compared with 498 by runner-up Jim Taylor of Green Bay Packers. Only Green Bay and St. Louis Cardinals have gained as much on the ground as Brown all by himself.

Lou Michaels, Pittsburgh Steelers' place-kicker, closed in a bit on Brown in the scoring race with 58 points to Brown's 66. Jerry Kramer, Green Bay's kicker, is close with 56 and Jim Martin of Baltimore Colts has 52 points.

Tittle retained the passing lead with a 60.8 completion percentage.

Conrad, Charlie Johnson's favorite target at St. Louis, held the pass-catching lead with a total of 44 for 547 yards.

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Hockey Meet Is Postponed

The meeting of the Combines Hockey Club, to be held last night at CIRW had to be postponed because of poor attendance. Only two players were present, and one member of the executive.

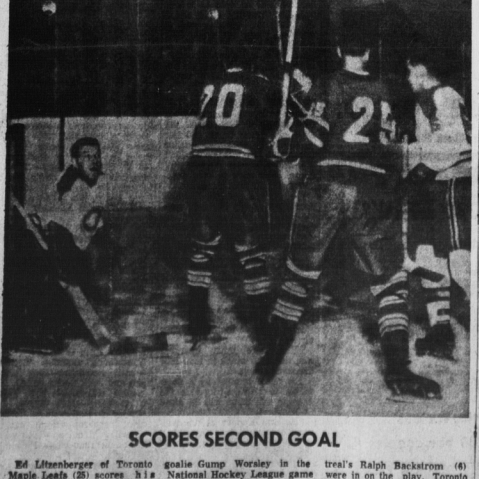
UNION BILINGUAL

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. (CP) George Hutchens of Toronto was re-elected to a 10th term as president of the Canadian section of the International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (CLC) at the end of a three-day annual meeting here Saturday.

The Catholic and Birth Control

a bold Re-Examination

The subject's no longer taboo—but there's instant disagreement the minute it's mentioned. November Reader's Digest discusses boldly the pro's and con's that are now stirring a ferment in the Catholic world. Why is even "The Natural Law" itself undergoing re-examination? For a careful consideration of these and other "bold" questions, get your copy of November Reader's Digest.



SCORES SECOND GOAL

Ed Litzenberger of Toronto Maple Leafs (25) scores his second goal in the first period against Montreal Canadien's goalie Gump Worsley in the National Hockey League game in Toronto last night. Toronto's Bob Pulford (20) and Montreal's Ralph Backstrom (6) were in on the play. Toronto led 4-1 at the end of the second period. (CP Wirephoto)

TIP LOGAN SPEAKS

Learn Convert Kicking To Make Major Leagues

By JACK SULLIVAN
Canadian Press Sports Editor

Any Canadian youngster with ambitions of becoming a professional football player in this country would do well to concentrate on convert kicking. The pro game, particularly in the East, needs players who can accurately kick the extra point.

Up - to - date Eastern Conference statistics support this theory. The convert has been kicked on only 91 of the 128 touchdowns scored to date, meaning that approximately one in four is missed.

This is difficult to understand in a professional sport, but the figures are there.

Why does this situation exist?

Listen to an expert, John Robert (Tip) Logan, a good example of how Canadians can stack up against high - priced imports. Tip, a native of Fort Erie, Ont., played for Hamilton Tiger-Cats from 1951 through the 1955 season and in that time his toe became the most famous in modern-day football.

RARELY MISSED

He missed only four convert attempts with Ti-Cats.

"It may be difficult to make a summation of the question in general," said Tip, now in the insurance business in Hamilton.

"However, I believe that there isn't enough emphasis put on this phase of the game and on the importance it has on the game. They sort of go about convert kicking in a nonchalant manner, just to get it up there.

"If a Canadian boy wants to make it in the pro ranks, my suggestion to him is to try to become a specialist on convert kicking, and that means practice. Many games have been won and lost on convert kicking."

Tip, now 33 and a rabid football fan, said he practised his art five nights a week. "We even had five - minute scrimmages on convert kicking, primarily for protection purposes. Our coach, Carl Voyles, concentrated on this phase of the game."

KICKED 84 IN ROW

It certainly paid off. Tip, a six-foot 196 pounder, built a reputation as Canada's greatest all-time convert and field goal kicker in his five - year stint with the Tabbies.

During his career with Ticats he missed one in 1951 and two in 1952 and one in 1954.

At one time it was believed he had kicked 104 consecutive converts but a statistically minded Montreal reporter said the movies showed he had missed a convert on Oct. 18, 1952, in a game at Montreal against the Alouettes. That chopped his streak to 79 and he eventually increased it to 84 before missing again.

The report of his 1952 miss caught Logan and fans by surprise. Tip had never kept count of his converts or claimed any records — he simply took the word of newspaper men and fans who had jotted down each kick.

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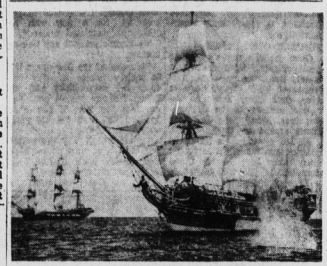

The British warship Avenger puts a shot across the bow of an English merchantman to stop her with the intention of impressing seamen in this scene from the CinemaScope production of Herman Melville's sea classic, "Billy Budd," at the Capitol Theatre today. Starred are Robert Ryan, Peter Ustinov, Melvyn Douglas and the new British film discovery, Terence Stamp, in the title role.

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